



# Occupational Medicine in Europe: Scope and Competencies



WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Bilthoven

Health, Environment and Safety in Enterprises, No. 2

1. Guidelines on quality management in multidisciplinary occupational health services

# Occupational Medicine in Europe: Scope and Competencies



WHO European Centre for Environment and Health  
Bilthoven

## EUROPEAN HEALTH21 TARGET 13

### SETTINGS FOR HEALTH

By the year 2015, people in the Region should have greater opportunities to live in healthy physical and social environments at home, at school, at the workplace and in the local community

*[Adopted by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe at its forty-eighth session, Copenhagen, September 1998]*

### ABSTRACT

This document presents the current role of occupational physicians in Europe, modified as a result of new legislation and policies in public and occupational health in the European Union and other countries. The new model of occupational health practice integrates various occupational health professions, and possibly other specialists involved in preventive activities, into multidisciplinary preventive services capable of detecting and controlling occupational, non-occupation and environmental health risks. This publication presents views on the scope of occupational medicine and its relation to allied professions and broader disciplines such as environmental and occupational health. The obligatory tasks (imposed by national regulations) and voluntary tasks (recommended by working communities or international guidance documents) to be carried out by occupational physicians have been included.

### Keywords

OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE  
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